

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, June 11, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



APG readies for exercise

Aberdeen Proving Ground will conduct a major training exercise in both the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas on June 18. This exercise will involve field play by APG's first responders.

Anyone associated with the Edgewood Area, should expect to be involved in the exercise in one way or another.

Some organizations may be asked to evacuate a building, while other organizations may be asked to provide assistance/expertise to the installation response forces.

Minimal inconveniences will be felt in the Aberdeen Area, and any inconveniences will be kept to a minimum within the scope of the exercise.

For more information, call Robert F. Remus, 410-278-3147.

Traffic pattern changes

Traffic patterns for inbound traffic in the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas are changing.

For security reasons, an additional serpentine has been added. This change should not affect traffic flow through the gate areas. Drivers should remain alert to the additional barriers and obey traffic warnings and signs.

See story on page 5.

ACS hosts entrepreneur workshop

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program will present an Entrepreneur Workshop and Network Event, June 5, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3327.

Seize a great networking opportunity and learn how successful small business owners started their businesses.

This workshop will also help prospective and established businesses clarify their needs and learn more about the resources available to them.

For more information or to register, call Marilyn Howard at 410-278-9669.

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Narc dog receives root canal at APG



Soldiers from the 16th Ordnance Battalion, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, get into the spirit of Armed Forces Day as they wave their flags and cheer for the entertainment at Ripken Stadium, May 17.

Photo by LAMONT HARBISON

Celebrating freedom

Community rallies to show appreciation

Karen Drewen
Special contributor

The local community took the meaning of Armed Forces Day to heart on May 17, turning out by the hundreds to get a look at Aberdeen Proving Ground's people, equipment and missions, and to enjoy both military and civilian entertainment.

The event, one of the chilliest Armed Forces Days in recent memory, was held at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen, the first time at that location.

"For several years we've had a parade, but we were looking for an alternative to asking our military to march on this holiday," said Katie

See SPIRIT, page 2

Irby becomes top NCO of APG Garrison

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby became the top noncommissioned officer of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison during a change of responsibility ceremony at Top of the Bay, May 29.

Irby took over the position formerly held by Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Stallings who also retired during the ceremony after a 30-year career.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, garrison commander, conducted the ceremony, awarding Stallings the Legion of Merit, a letter and Certificate of Appreciation from President George W. Bush and a Certificate of Retirement from Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki.

Mark said the occasion was an "important chapter in APG history" and called Stallings a "key productive leader in this Army."

Noting the radical change the post endured after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks with increased security requirements, housing National Guard and Reserve units supporting the installation's security efforts, and mobilizing units deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Mark said Stallings' assistance was invaluable.

"His military career is the epitome of his service to our country," Mark said. "On behalf of all at APG, you will be missed."

Welcoming Irby, Mark added that he was selected "because of his outstanding accomplishments and his support of soldiers."

Thanking Stallings for his help in acquainting him with the installation and his new responsibilities, Irby wished him well in his retirement and told the audi-

ence he was anxious to serve.

"I am honored and grateful for this opportunity to serve as your garrison command sergeant major," Irby said.

Stallings bid farewell to the installation, thanking the garrison staff, tenant leaders, senior military leaders and soldiers for their help during his tenure.

"The people of APG are the best anywhere," Stallings said. "I could not have asked for a better assignment."

In a surprise gesture, Stallings presented one of his rank insignia to Sgt. 1st Class Greg Binford of Fort Belvoir, Va. Binford served under Stallings when he led the 143rd Ordnance Battalion and returned to serve as master of ceremonies for the program.

"There is no doubt in my mind he will be a sergeant major one day," Stallings said.

In closing, Stallings thanked his wife, Jonise, sons Ronald Jr., and Joey, and daughter, Erin, who also attended.

"It's been a long journey. I can't imagine having done it without you," he said.

As the ceremony concluded, guests lined up to congratulate Stallings and Irby.

Noting his pleasure in obtaining an experienced senior NCO like Irby, Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, added that commanders require a certain level of leadership and caring in their senior NCOs.

"This allows you to step back and know things will be taken care of," Doesburg said. "I also had that level of confidence in Command Sergeant Major Stallings."

A native of Coldwater, Miss., Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby comes to APG from Fort Hood, Texas. A career ordnance soldier, Irby's previous assignments include four tours at Fort Hood, and tours at Fort Polk, La., Fort Knox, Ky., and in Garlstadt, Bamberg and Friedberg, Germany.

Irby is a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy and holds an associate's degree in business management from Regents College. He is currently working toward a bachelor's degree. His decorations and awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal and Kosovo Campaign Medal. He also was awarded the Order of Samuel Sharp and the Order of St. Martin.

Irby has two sons, Kevin and Kory.



Photo by RALPH BROTH
Incoming APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, center, looks on as 1st Sgt. Clarence Ward, Headquarters Support Troop, passes the garrison guidon to Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald E. Stallings, left, during the Change of Responsibility ceremony at Top of the Bay, May 29.

Watch card

Do observe and report:

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.

- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational information.

- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the installation.

- Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.

- Unusual contacts on or off post.

- Unusual aerial activity near or around installation.

- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.

Do not:

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.

- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.

- Discuss force protection measures, capabilities, or posture.

- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

Report any suspicious activity immediately to DOD Police:

Aberdeen Area 410-306-2222

Edgewood Area 410-436-2222

Off post in Maryland, call 1-800-492-TIPS (8477)

The call may save lives.

FEB awards go to more than 70 from APG

Seven receive gold, 22 silver

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Two Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations led all others in garnering the most high level awards during the 2003 Federal Executive Board Excellence in Federal Career Awards luncheon, held May 3 at Martin's West in Baltimore.

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense led the way with three gold and four silver winners and the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center came away with six silver.

Altogether, 74 employees from 12 APG organizations received six gold, 23 silver, and 45 bronze awards in 16 categories.

The Baltimore Area FEB recognizes the region's outstanding "public servants" and occurs in conjunction with National Public Service Week, said Richard H. Howell, FEB chair, as he welcomed the more than 1,000 attendees to the luncheon.

"All of the people that will be recognized today are in some ways supporting the homeland defense effort,"

Howell said.

"Please join me in congratulating these "servants of the American People," their families, supervisors, and just as importantly, their organizations for their commitment to excellence."

The ceremony included selections from the U.S. Naval Academy Ceremonial Band; the presentation of the Colors by the Defense Information School Joint Service Color Guard from Fort Meade; and remarks by Maryland Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger.

Supervisors nominate subordinates for the prestigious award annually. A Blue Ribbon Panel determines the level of the award.

The 2003 FEB gold award recipients from APG included Dr. Steven L. Baskin, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense; James H. Clark, MRICD; Sheryl Coleman, U.S. Army Research Laboratory; Lt. Col. Brian Lukey, MRICD; Judith Matthews, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command; and Dr. Kevin P. O'Connell,

See AWARDS, page 12

Army Family Action Plan Symposium set for June 9 to 11

Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Army Community Service will host an Army Family Action Plan Symposium, June 9 to 11, at Top of the Bay.

Fred Posadas, AFAP program coordinator, will lead the event that includes work group discussions on community activities and support, consumer and health services and youth activities.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, and Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, will give opening remarks, June 9, and Delores F. Johnson, director, Family Programs, Headquarters U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, will be the guest speaker.

"AFAP is a process that identifies issues of concern that affect APG and the Army community," Posadas said.

"It gives everyone the chance to influence his or her own well-being and standard of living and may have an Army-wide impact."

Issues and concerns collected during the previous month will be discussed and evaluated during the three-day symposium. Recommendations will be evaluated by local organizations and may go forward for DA consideration, Posadas said.

The symposium schedule includes:

June 9

Workgroup discussions, 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Welcome/guest speaker, 1 to 2 p.m.

Well-Being focus group, 2:30 p.m.

Work groups, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

June 10

Workgroups, 8:30 to 10:20 a.m.; 10:40 to 11:45 a.m.; 3 to 4:30 p.m.

June 11

Workgroup discussions, 8:30 to 10:20 a.m.; 10:40 to noon

Outbrief issues, 1 to 2 p.m.

Closing presentation, 2 p.m.¶

Patriotic spirit abounds on Armed Forces Day rally at Ripken Stadium



Photo by ALISIA CHAPMAN
Celebrating in full force, civilians and service members alike head to Ripken Stadium to celebrate Armed Forces Day at Ripken Stadium.



Photo by ALISIA CHAPMAN
Pvt. Chris Stevens, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, helps Chad Roszko, 6, out of an M1089 Recovery Vehicle during Armed Forces Day at Ripken Stadium, May 17.



Photo by LA'MONT HARBISON
From left, O'Brien and Greta Jones, Wallace and Frances Waynick, and daughter Linda Jones, show their patriotic spirit at the Armed Forces Day celebration. Jones' daughter Kristin, 16, student and instructor representing the Havre de Grace Dancers, performed tap dances to "Cotton Eyed Joe" and "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" at the event to show her patriotic support for her father, Air National Guard Master Sgt. Steven Jones, serving in the Middle East.



Photo by LA'MONT HARBISON
The Armed Forces Color Guard from the Military District of Washington presents the colors during the national anthem at Armed Forces Day in Aberdeen.

Spirit

From front page

McRoberts, coordinator of the event for Garrison APG. "We thought an open house, where people could come out and see what we do, would be a great option. Despite the cold weather, we had great attendance, and the public really enjoyed it."

A huge American flag suspended between the extended ladders of Aberdeen and APG fire trucks greeted visitors who arrived at the stadium. Hundreds of people roamed the parking lot looking at the military vehicles provided by the U.S. Army Mechanical Maintenance School and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command.

Inside the stadium, post and community

organizations provided displays, while Aberdeen's Cub Scout Pack 820 distributed flags at the entrance.

The day ended with a concert by the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) and the Aberdeen High School Choir, followed by fireworks, a tradition that began six years ago.

Entertainment began at 6:30 p.m., with a program narrated by Aberdeen's "Captain Jim" McMahan, a colonel in the Maryland Defense Force and owner of radio station WAMD.

"We should remember to show appreciation for our military, not just today, but every day," he said to the crowd before introducing Aberdeen Mayor Doug Wilson.

Wilson recognized the contributions from all branches of the military.

"Remember the sacrifices they have made in the past," Wilson said. "Consider the sacrifices they continue to make today to protect us all. And never forget they represent us. The proud

tradition of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard continue to be an inspiration for us all."

Wilson joined Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and SBCCOM, to present awards to the winners of a school poster contest sponsored for Armed Forces Day.

Dozens of the posters submitted were displayed at the stadium during the event.

Contest winners for elementary school level included: first place, Michelle Smith from Bakerfield Elementary School; second place, Mathias Andrulowicz from Perryville Elementary School; and third place, Emma Boyson from Meadowvale Elementary School.

Middle school winners included: first place, Christine Wickerson; second place, Hayley Thompson; and third place, Bryan Dawson, all from St. Joan of Arc School.

High school winners included first place, Devin Brooks from Joppatowne High School; second place, Carrie Stein from Bel Air High School; and Kaylin Frazier from Bel Air High School.

Ryan Coleman, field representative for U.S. Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger, read a certificate honoring APG and the City of Aberdeen for the Armed Forces Day event.

Doesburg noted in his speech before the concert that pride in the military should be extended not only to those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, but also to every soldier in every assignment.

"We should be proud of our soldiers for their tireless efforts, their sacrifices, their support and their duty to our nation," he said.

He also noted that the concert was the fifth and final APG Armed Forces Day celebration for Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jerry Standridge, conductor of the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own).

"Thank you for the many years of music you have provided for us, and our best wishes go with you in your new assignment," Doesburg said.

Standridge conducted the band through most of the concert and, for the final song, passed his baton to Chief Warrant Officer 4 Robert Larsen, the new commander of the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own).

Larsen conducted the final song of the evening, "Stars and Stripes Forever," which led into the fireworks.

Musical entertainment leading up to the concert included The Chapel Hill Music Sensations, a group of fifth-graders from Chapel Hill Elementary School in Baltimore County's Perry Hall, performing a patriotic program that drew praise from the audience.

The Jammin' Country Dancers demonstrated intricate dance steps, while the Hoppin' Hawks Jump Rope Club showed how jumping rope can

be done with a dozen jumpers at a time, from a seated position, and even on a pogo stick. The Havre de Grace Dancers continued the musical entertainment with two performances.

Deafening cheers came from the crowd as the Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGE Academy Drill Team took to the field.

More than 80 members of the academy attended the event to cheer on the members of the drill team.

Between the entertainment, videos played on the stadium's big screen, including a patriotic tribute to soldiers by country music group Lonestar, "I'm Already There."

The group will perform at APG on Sept. 12, and tickets were on sale during Armed Forces Day at a special discount price of \$15.

To purchase tickets for the concert, \$20 in advance and \$25 at the gate, call Morale, Welfare and Recreation at 410-278-4907.

The weather dampened one event, a parachute jump by the Green Beret Parachute Team. Members of the team traveled from Fort Bragg, N.C., to perform, but excessive clouds made a jump impossible.

They made the attempt however; traveling from Weide Army Airfield in the Edgewood Area on a helicopter provided by Company B, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, Maryland Army National Guard. Company G, 224th Aviation Regiment, MdARNG provided air traffic control support.

The crowd cheered and waved their flags as the helicopter circled over the stadium, the jump crew waving to those below.

Members of the team were Jim Ciciora, his wife, Diane Ciciora, retired Sgt. 1st Class John Weldon, Col. Mike Stephenson, and Master Sgt. Ken Cupp from Aberdeen.

The event wouldn't have been possible without support from local businesses, added Darlene Ostroski, coordinator for the City of Aberdeen.

"We owe the local business community and Ripken Stadium a debt of thanks for their donations of money, equipment and services," she said.

The day ended with a fireworks show that made braving the cold weather worthwhile.

The members of the Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGE Academy stayed at the stadium after the event to police the baseball field from the fragments of paper left by the fireworks.

"Overall, I think the event was a great success," McRoberts said. "We definitely have a good plan for next year's celebration."

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

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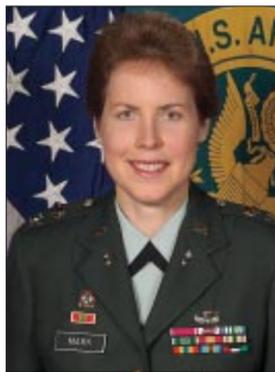
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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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Message from the commander--a public thank you



Col. Mardi U. Mark

Aberdeen Proving Ground and the City of Aberdeen joined together to honor the nation's military on May 17, with the annual Armed Forces Day celebration.

This event has been a joint effort between the military and civilian communities for several years. But this year, the new format required a special effort not only from APG's tenant organizations, but also the community.

I would like to publicly thank them for their efforts.

First, I must thank the City of Aberdeen for providing support both in the coordination of this effort, and for finding businesses and individuals who were willing to provide financial support.

Thanks also go out to the Aberdeen Police Department for providing support and security for the event.

"Captain Jim" McMahan of WAMD Radio provided "the voice" of our event, and his professionalism made the event even more enjoyable.

The business sponsors were generous with funding and in-kind aid to help bring this event together.

Thank you to Aberdeen American Legion Post 128 Ladies Auxiliary, the Aberdeen Lions Club, Aberdeen State Farm Insurance Company, Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, Ashley Inc., Baldwin Manor Inc., Bank of America, Battelle Eastern Science Technology Center, Boy Scouts of America, Chesapeake Bay Rental, Clorox Products Manufacturing Company, Country Inn & Suites, Edmeades & Stromdahl Ltd., Frito-Lay, Harford Bank, Harford County Office of Tourism, Mars Supermarkets Inc., Merit Hotel Group, Stancills Inc., The New Ideal Diner and Quality Inn & Suites.

Thank you also to the Aberdeen Fire Department, for providing pit beef to our hungry crowds, and for donating a

portion of their profits to Perry Point Veterans Center, which brought several of its veterans out to enjoy the day.

The day's patriotic theme was enhanced by the flags distributed by members of Aberdeen Cub Scout Pack 820.

Gratitude goes out to the APG organizations that provided booths, equipment and support at the event: the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (Provisional), the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Chemical Biological Application and Risk Reduction, the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, Aberdeen Test Center, Program Executive Office-Program Manager for Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defense, the U.S. Army Environmental Center, the U.S. Army Mechanical Maintenance School, and Garrison APG's Fire Department, Directorate of Installation Operations, Plans and Operations Division, the Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment's Environ-

mental Restoration Division, Army Community Service, and Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Program. These organizations gave the community an excellent overview of the work that goes on at APG every day.

Thank you to the community groups who provided displays: the Cal Ripken World Series, Harford County Tourism, Girl Scouts of Aberdeen and APG, American Legion Post 128, WXCW Radio, the Ordnance Corps Association, Marine Corps Recruiting, Maryland National Guard Recruiting, St. Joan of Arc School, Harford County Drug and Alcohol Department and the Col. Aquila Hall Chapter of the Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. This truly represented a cross-section of our community.

The entertainment made the day special, and our thanks go out to the 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) and the Aberdeen High School Choir who, for the sixth year, put a tremendous amount of time and rehearsal into another outstanding performance. This partnership provides us with a remarkable show each year, and we hope it continues to entertain and inspire us for

many years to come.

Thanks also go out to the Hoppin' Hawks Jump Rope Club, the Chapel Hill Music Sensations, the Jammin Country Dance Team, the Havre de Grace Dancers, and the Maryland National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Drill Team, for giving attendees a glimpse into the talent that comes from the local community.

While the weather didn't cooperate with the parachute jump, thank you to the Green Beret Parachute Team for making the trip from Fort Bragg, N.C. Their effort would not have been possible without aviation support of Company B, 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, Maryland National Guard, and Company G, 224th Aviation Regiment, Maryland Army National Guard, which provided air traffic control support.

Thanks to all of the students who participated in the poster contest, and to the teachers who gave them the time to create these special works of art. Their artwork was an inspiration to everyone. Judges were impressed by both their talent and patriotism.

Coordinating an event of this size is no small task, and it would not have been possible

without the efforts of Katie McRoberts from Garrison APG, who coordinated the event for the proving ground, and Darlene Ostroski from the City of Aberdeen, who handled the coordination for the city.

Thanks also go to Beth Boyson of Times of Our Lives, and Karen DREWEN of URS Coleman, a contractor with the Chemical Materials Agency, for their support in coordinating the event.

Ripken Stadium provided an outstanding venue for the event, and thanks go to the staff and management, particularly Melissa Tolson, stadium events manager, for supporting this effort.

Finally, thanks go out to every member of the community who went out to the stadium on an unseasonably cold day in May to show support for the nation's armed forces. That kind of support is what makes the relationship between APG, the City of Aberdeen and the surrounding communities so special, and makes me glad, and honored, to be part of the Harford County family.

Government purchase card fraud, misuse - - Ignorance of the law not an excuse to avoid liability

SBCCOM

Recent Government Accounting Office reports emphasize the need to educate all government purchase card participants on applicable appropriations regulations to ensure the proper use of the GPC.

"Most cardholders and billing officials are not well versed in appropriations law, nor should they be, however, ignorance of this law is not an acceptable excuse to avoid liability," said James K. Warrington, executive director, U.S. Army Robert Morris Acquisition Center.

To ensure public funds are spent appropri-

ately, cardholders must obtain legal approval from their servicing legal office prior to purchasing the following items:

- Any form of entertainment
- Personal stationary
- Bottled water
- Lodging/rental cars/other travel costs
- Clothing
- Professional licensure
- Commander's coins
- Professional memberships
- Commemorative items
- Seasonal decorations
- Employee convenience items

- Flowers and greeting cards
- Refrigerators/microwaves/coffeepots/other similar items
- Food/beverages
- Light refreshments served at official meetings or conferences
- Speaker's fees
- Training in the next fiscal year
- Luggage and briefcases
- Working lunches
- Office decorations and plants
- Printing not through GPO
- Paper plates/paper cups/napkins/plastic cutlery

Advertising
Business cards

This list of questionable purchases is not all-inclusive. The Army GPC Standing Operating Procedure, July 31, 2002, states that prior to making a purchase that could cause one to question the appropriate expenditure of taxpayer money, cardholders will obtain pre-purchase approval from the appropriate authority.

"Individuals involved in spending taxpayer money are held to high standards and must always apply good business judgment and the

See FRAUD, page 11

Koons... No Horsin' Around

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...To The Crown

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<p>03 CHEVY TRACKER 4 DR, 4WD, AC, AM/FM, CD, PWR PL, LDR, DEO. ST # 00405 \$14,470</p>	<p>03 CHEVY S-10 AM/FM, AC & MORE. READY FOR ST BING CLEAN MD ST # 00202 \$7,995</p>	<p>03 SILVERADO REG. CAB AUTO, AC, V6 & MORE. ST # 01036 \$12,599</p>	<p>03 SILVERADO EXT. CAB V6, AC, LOCKING REAR. ST # 01066 \$15,599</p>
<p>03 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4X4, LOADED, AUTO, FULL POWER & MORE. ST # 01250 \$20,999</p>	<p>03 CHEVY TAHOE LOADED, PWR, PL, AUTO & MORE. ST # 01501 \$26,999</p>	<p>03 CHEVY SUBURBAN AUTO, LOADED, ALL POWER & MORE. ST # 01013 \$27,999</p>	<p>03 CHEVY AVALANCHE 4 DR, AUTO, FULL POWER, AM/FM, T-D CHO, OSE. ST # 00771 \$24,999</p>

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U.S. Army Developmental Test Command



Dr. C. David Brown, left, director of the new Combined Test Organization for Future Combat Systems at Aberdeen Proving Ground, unveils the office's new sign with, from left, Michael Toole, representing the Lead System Integrator for FCS; Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier Biological and Chemical Command; Col. Donald Kotchman, office of the Program Manager, FCS; and Brig. Gen. Marvin McNamara, commander of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

Organization to oversee FCS Test Program sets up office at APG

Story and photo by **Mike Cast**
APG News

The Combined Test Organization, or CTO, for Future Combat Systems, established in April 2002 to help the Army and its private-industry partners plan and conduct tests of FCS, unveiled the sign for its new office at Aberdeen Proving Ground, May 15.

Dr. C. David Brown was director of the Developmental Test Command's Test Technology Division when he was reassigned to help establish the CTO last year. During his remarks at the unveiling ceremony, he said the CTO will play a leading role in the successful testing and fielding of Future Combat Systems.

"The CTO is committed to helping the Army find technical solutions to its 21st century operational requirements," he said, adding that it will orchestrate and oversee the complex testing necessary to ensure Future Combat Systems are developed and adapted as necessary to meet the needs of the Objective Force.

The Army's campaign to field FCS

within a decade is a collaborative effort involving numerous organizations. Among them are the Army's Program Manager, FCS; the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency; the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command and its Developmental Test Command, Operational Test Command and the U.S. Army Evaluation Center; and a "Lead System Integrator," or LSI - a partnership between Boeing and the Science Applications International Corporation.

Boeing and SAIC were awarded a contract to assist the Army in identifying technical requirements and to work with various high-tech companies to develop and test systems that meet these requirements.

Under the oversight and direction of the CTO, DTC and the LSI will put FCS through a full spectrum of rigorous testing in harsh natural and man-made environments. Systems will be tested as they would operate, according to Brown, necessitating simultaneous testing of FCS components at test centers in various locations throughout the United States. This "distributed" testing will enable Army

evaluators to determine how well FCS components operate together as a "system of systems," Brown said.

Following the testing of systems in their developmental phases, the Army's Operational Test Command will conduct FCS testing with soldiers in realistic operational scenarios. This will also involve distributed testing at various locations. The Army Evaluation Center will use the data from developmental and operational testing to complete formal performance reports for the Army-information that will help senior leaders make critical acquisition decisions at milestones in the FCS program.

As currently envisioned, the FCS would include an array of ground combat systems that carry soldiers and crew, ground combat systems that would be remotely operated, and various remotely operated aerial systems. Enhanced command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities—all linked together in a common network and speaking a common "language" to each other—are at the core of the FCS concept.

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THE ITALIAN JOB

Now Playing Everywhere



From left, Brig. Gen. Marvin McNamara, 1st Lt. Greg Montgomery, Evie Jordan, Joe Gilbert, Judy Matthews and Lorraine Wilkerson enjoy a bowling match at APG's Bowling Center.

DTC commander, special employees enjoy monthly lunchtime get-togethers

Story and photo by **Mike Cast**
APG News

The scores may have been uneven, but everyone felt like a winner during a recent just-for-fun bowling match at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Hosted by Brig. Gen. Marvin "Keith" McNamara, commander of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, the trip to the bowling lanes was the first in what may turn out to be a series of similar "consideration-of-others" outings for a group of employ-

ees at APG with disabilities.

Scott Baird, Joe Gilbert and Linda Casey, three DTC mailroom employees with developmental disabilities - as well as Beth Halsey and Evie Jordan, employees with similar disabilities who help APG's Civilian Personnel Operations Center shred its paper - enjoyed lunchtime bowling May 27. The event was arranged to make their work environment at APG a little more enjoyable for them.

The employees have had lunch with McNamara once a month since shortly after he assumed command, said Judy Matthews, who oversees DTC's Information Services Team and the mailroom crew.

"Brigadier General McNamara focused on getting to know the people with disabilities, to find out what their interests are and to accommodate their working here," said Matthews. "After talking to them about things they like to do, he found out they like to bowl, so we made arrangements to do that and had a really great time."

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Community Notes

OPPORTUNITIES IN SAUDI ARABIA

VINNELL Corporation, a respected international operations, maintenance, and training contractor, is developing and conducting logistics and maintenance training programs for the Saudi Arabian National Guard. Immediate opportunities exist in Saudi Arabia for former paracommando officers as trainers for the following maintenance positions:

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A Vinnell Corporation representative will be at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Maryland Job Service Office in Bldg 4903 on 12 June 2003 from 0900-1600.

VINNELL Corporation offers an attractive salary and benefits package. How to forward your chronological resume, DA Form 2-1 and DD Form 214 (if available) to: Vinnell Corporation, Attn: ES-SANG, 12150 Monument Drive, Suite 600-Employment Services, Fairfax, VA 22033; Fax: (703) 216-5230; Phone: (877) 270-8339, ext. 1 or 3. ECE

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**FRIDAY
JUNE 6
COUNTRY HOE DOWN**

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing the first Friday of the month at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing is held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$8; cash bar and no lessons.

For more information, call 410-272-8318.

**FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY
JUNE 6 THRU 8
FIESTA**

The Prince of Peace Church, 2600 Willoughby Beach Road, Edgewood, will hold a fiesta, June 6, 6 to 10 p.m.; June 7, 3 to 10 p.m.; and June 8, noon to 5 p.m. Food, games, a moon bounce, bingo, and much more are part of the days' enjoyment.

For more information, call 410-676-7785.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 7
PONY RIDES**

Prince of Peace Church, 2600 Willoughby Beach Road, Edgewood, will offer pony rides, 3 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 410-679-5912.

**15TH ANNUAL RISING
SUN SUNFEST**

The 15th annual Sunfest street festival will be held in Rising Sun at 9 a.m.

Festivities include the Sunfest parade; entertainment by Dean Sapp and the Harford Express, Jack Foraker, Prairie Dog Phil Wax, Christian Estep and Matthew Grapes; line dancing with Shirley Mackie and bluegrass with Martha McEvoy will be held at the Western Auto parking lot on Queen Street; and vendors featuring arts and crafts, information booths, food, a car show, pony rides, door prizes and more.

**SATURDAY, SUNDAY
JUNE 7 AND 8
MARITIME MUSEUM
HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum will hold its 14th Annual Maritime Museum Heritage Festival, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Museum located on 100 Lafayette Street. Events include a free Maritime Heritage Festival Tour of Havre de Grace museums; maritime demonstrations like knot tying, chair caning, boat restoration, canoe canvassing and chowder making both days; displays of wooden boats and other nautical arts and crafts, seafood, music, children's activities and much more. Entertainment will be provided by Lisa Staudenecker, Celtic musicians Dogs Among the Bushes, Janie Meneely and folksinger Tom Wisner.

The maritime festival includes a sunset cruise on the Lantern Queen for a private "Rolling Down the River" party from 8 to 10 p.m. on June 7. Tickets for the cruise cost \$35 per person and can be purchased at the Maritime Museum and

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50, building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard. To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.



CONFIDENCE

Friday, June 6, 7 p.m.
Starring: Edward Burns, Paul Giamatti

What Jake doesn't know just might get him killed. A swindling job stealing money orchestrated by Jake and his gang goes wrong. When corpses start popping up, Jake knows it's only a matter of time until his number is called. (R)

HOLES

FREE ADMISSION
Saturday, June 7, 7 p.m.

Starring: Shia LaBeouf, Sigourney Weaver

A teenager, Stanley Yelnats is sent to Camp Green Lake, a Texas detention camp, for a crime he didn't commit. There, he and the other boys are forced by the warden, a fiery woman who paints her nails with snake venom, to dig holes as something of a character building experience. Each day, each boy must dig a hole five feet deep and wide in the long dry rock that was once the bottom of Green Lake. (PG)



BULLETPROOF MONK

Saturday, June 7, 9 p.m.
Starring: Chow Yun-Fat, Seann William Scott

For 60 years, a mysterious monk has traversed the globe to protect an ancient scroll. Now the monk must look for a new scroll keeper. Kar is an unlikely candidate, but when he inadvertently saves the bulletproof monk from capture, the two become partners in a scheme to save the world from the scroll's most acid pursuer. (PG-13)

the Havre de Grace Visitor's Center. Tickets for the festival cost \$8 for adults and can be purchased at the Maritime Museum; children ages 12 and under are admitted free. For more information, call the Maritime Museum at 410-942-1159.

**THURSDAY, SATURDAY
JUNE 12, 14
EFFECTIVE BICYCLING
CLASS**

The League of American Bicyclists "Road 1" course is designed to help develop bicycle handling and traffic skills. Given by a certified instructor from One Less Car, Maryland's bike advocacy group, the class teaches bicyclists to ride safely in traffic and on multi-use trails, and to fix the most common mechanical problems. The course is designed for ages 14 and older.

The class will be Thursday evening, June 12, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Bel Air United Methodist Church on the corner of Route 924 and Linwood Avenue. Cost is \$28, payable to One Less Car. Bicyclists should bring their bike and helmet.

Pre-registration is required. To make a reservation, call Jeff Springer at 410-638-8812, or e-mail him at springjk1@comcast.net. The class fills quickly.

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
JUNE 13 AND 14
PWOC WOMEN'S
CONFERENCE**

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invite all women to join its women's conference being held at the Aberdeen Area chapel. The guest speaker Candy Davidson, director of Sandy Coves Ministries, will remind attendees that "Nothing is impossible with God."

The retreat will include dinner and a session on Friday beginning at 6:30 p.m., and breakfast, lunch and program from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. Childcare is available but must be reserved in advance. A \$20 donation and reservations must be received by June 8.

Scholarships are available. For more information and to

RSVP, call Laura Keegan, 410-273-0161 or Shirley Huffman, 410-273-1497.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 14
U.S. ARMY 228TH
BIRTHDAY SPECIALTY
MEAL**

The U.S. Army 228th Birthday Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facility, building 4503, for lunch, noon to 1:30 p.m., and the Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, for lunch, noon to 1:30 p.m. During this event all military personnel, family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard holiday meal rate of \$5.25 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, Department of Defense civilian, retiree and their guest. The discount meal rate of \$4.55 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

The U.S. Army 228th Birthday Specialty menu includes fried mozzarella sticks, buffalo wings with blue cheese dressing, grilled steak, barbecued chicken, spinach lasagna, barbecued spareribs, southern fried catfish, candied sweet potatoes, macaroni and cheese, cheese bacon burger, grilled frankfurters, baked beans, cheese steak sandwiches, freedom fries, grilled bratwurst, onion rings, chicken fajitas, meatless thick crust pizza, sandwich bar, potato bar, submarine sandwiches, vegetables, salad bar, corn on the cob, potato salad, pasta salad, broccoli with cheese sauce, coleslaw with creamy dressing, southern style collards, macaroni salad/condiments, breads and rolls, desserts, hot dinner rolls, make your own-strawberry shortcake, assorted sliced breads, watermelon and assorted fresh fruits, toasted garlic bread, soft ice cream and Army birthday cake.

Note: Menu is subject to change without prior notification.

For more information, call Edward Parylo, or Ernest Green at 410-306-1393/1398.

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Morale, Recreation & Welfare

Activities

History of APG

This two-hour class provides an in-depth presentation of the past and current history of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Significant events and places of historical importance will be covered as they relate to the reason APG was created. The program will conclude with a question and answer session. Class will be held on June 14, 10 a.m. to noon at the Mitchell House. Cost is \$10 for adults (one free child with each paying adult). For more information, call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail him at charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil.

Bowling Center activities

A Summer Adult/Youth league starts June 27. Bowling begins at 6 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person for nine weeks of bowling, skipping July 4 weekend.

A Wednesday Doubles league, starts June 18, for \$10 per week. Bowling begins at 6 p.m., and is eight weeks long.

A Thursday doubles league starts June 19. The cost is \$10 per week for eight weeks. Bowling begins at 6 p.m.

MYSTERY BOWL II starts in June. Receive an entry form for each game bowled or for a purchase from the snack bar. There will be a drawing each Monday for the nine weeks for this promotion.

Prizes will be on display at the Bowling Center.

The winners of the nine weeks will be included in a drawing for a chance to win a resort vacation. The more the facility is used by customers, the more chances of winning. To sign up for any of the summer leagues, visit the center or call 410-278-4041.

APG News will advertise other center specials throughout the summer.

Adult swim lessons

Adult swim lessons will be held at the Shore Pool in Aberdeen, June 16 through July 30. This program is designed for the non-swimmers or anyone with little experience in the water. The crawl stroke, elementary back stroke, floating and rhythmic breathing are stressed. Register by June 9. Cost is \$25. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail her at stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

Parent/child golf tournament

This is a nine-hole event with a shotgun start ad scramble format (with modified fees for age groups). Team can consist of one adult and three children; one adult and two children; two adults and

two children; or one adult and one child. Cost is \$35 for the public, \$30 for authorized, and \$25 for annual patrons. Register by June 11. For more information, call Charles Heinsohn at 410-278-3868 or e-mail charles.heinsohn@usag.apg.army.mil.

Summer Solstice 3 on 3 basketball tournament

This is a five-person roster with three-person play on half courts. Games will consist of two 15-minute running clocks with a three-minute half time at the APG Athletic Center. This is a double elimination tournament with officiated games. Brackets will include an open division and a 35 and over division. Sign up individually or as a team. Register by June 13. Cost is \$6 for all active duty and \$8 for all others.

Yankees vs. Mets

Tickets are available to see the "House that Babe Ruth Built" and watch one of the greatest games in the subway series, June 28, 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Yankee Stadium. Cost has been reduced to \$71. Register by June 14. For more information, contact Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail her at stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Edgewood Area library is open Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For information, call 410-436-3589.

The following is a list of some of the new books at the APG MWR libraries:

Shadow Enemies: Hitler's secret terrorist plot against the United States by Alex Abella

In 1942, a team of Nazi saboteurs emerge from a submarine near New York City, bearing fake documents and crates of explosives. A second team lands in Florida a few days later. They were captured when the team leader defected, and most were executed after being tried by secret military tribunals.

The Next Big Thing is Really Small: how nanotechnology will change the future of your business by Jack Uldrich

Wheels for the World: Henry Ford, his company, and a century of progress, 1903-2003 by Douglas Brinkley

The New Face of War: how war will be fought in the 21st Century by Bruce Berkowitz

Identity Theft: how to protect your most valuable asset by Robert Hammond

A Patriot's Handbook: songs, poems, stories, and speeches celebrating the land we love selected by Caroline Kennedy

Hatred's Kingdom: how Saudi Arabia supports the new global terrorism by Dore Gold

A Soldier's Best Friend: scout dogs and their handlers in the Vietnam War by John Burnam

Hallowed Ground: a walk at Gettysburg by James McPherson

Watergate: the presidential scandal that shook America by Keith Olsen

The library's online catalog can be accessed at www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html.

Contest underway at Ruggles

Now is the time to practice driving the ball at Ruggles Golf Course driving range. One golfer each week will find a "lucky" red ball in their bucket, which wins that golfer a prize. The contest ends June 30.

Weekly winners will be placed in a grand prize drawing for a trip for two to a "Great Golf Escape" that will be announced on July 31. The seven-day trip includes transportation, daily rounds of golf, one hour of tennis daily and \$500 in cash.

Others interested in entering the grand prize drawing need to stop by the Pro Shop to fill out the necessary paperwork to enter. For more information, contact Tom Green at 410-278-4794 or e-mail him at tom.green@usag.apg.army.mil.



This week's Lucky Bucket Contest winner is 1st Sgt. James Branson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion. Congratulations.

Photo by TOM GREEN

APG SCHOOL LIAISON

KINDERGARTEN READINESS CHECKLIST

According to the Maryland State Department of Education, preschoolers should have over 2000 hours of exposure to the printed word for oral proficiency before entering kindergarten. This goal was established with indicators to help teachers evaluate children in the first couple of months in the classroom. Teachers will expect children to: discriminate initial sounds and tell if two words are/are not the same; generate rhyming words; clap sound patterns; identify and name the parts of a book front, back, pages, spine; show how to hold a book to read it; discriminate individual letters from words; point to individual words in sentences, show how print is read from left to right; demonstrate comprehension of fiction versus non-fiction texts; record personal ideas, using scribble or letter strings.

There are many easy ways for parents to expose their children to printed materials. Ready at Five suggests the following:

For infants, take time to read aloud. Point out plot points in the pictures. When bathing or dressing an infant, point out body parts and clothing. Play games like 'This Little Piggy' and 'Pat-A-Cake.' For toddlers, this age group loves books of all kinds, so read to them frequently. When reading a story, leave out words and let the toddler fill them in. Sing with the toddler. Talk about what you are doing during a day. For preschoolers, take turns 'reading,' and let the child read books he or she has memorized. Teach children how to sequence events by asking for a recitation of events in a book. Encourage their rhyming skills by changing the first letter of small words like cat or hat. Review opposites. Let them be the author and artist and give them brushes, pencils and crayons to produce their own books.

No matter what age level, parents should set aside a special time and place to read in quiet and without interruption. It is relaxing to read at bedtime, but it's just as fun throughout the day.

Hug and cuddle, too. Researchers have discovered children are more willing to learn when they associate learning with a memory as positive as a cuddle.

(Source: Early Childhood Citizens' Advisory Committee, Harford County Public Schools)

SUMMER CHESS PROGRAM

Chess Challenge-a summer chess program will be conducted each week in the Aberdeen and Edgewood Youth centers for elementary and middle school age children who are signed up in the SAS/YS Summer Program, June 23 through Aug. 15. 'Mr. Ivan' will conduct the chess program at the Aberdeen Youth Center, and 'Mr. Jerome' at the Edgewood Youth Center. Instruction, round-robin tournaments, fun quizzes and more are some of the features of participating in learning how to play the game of chess.

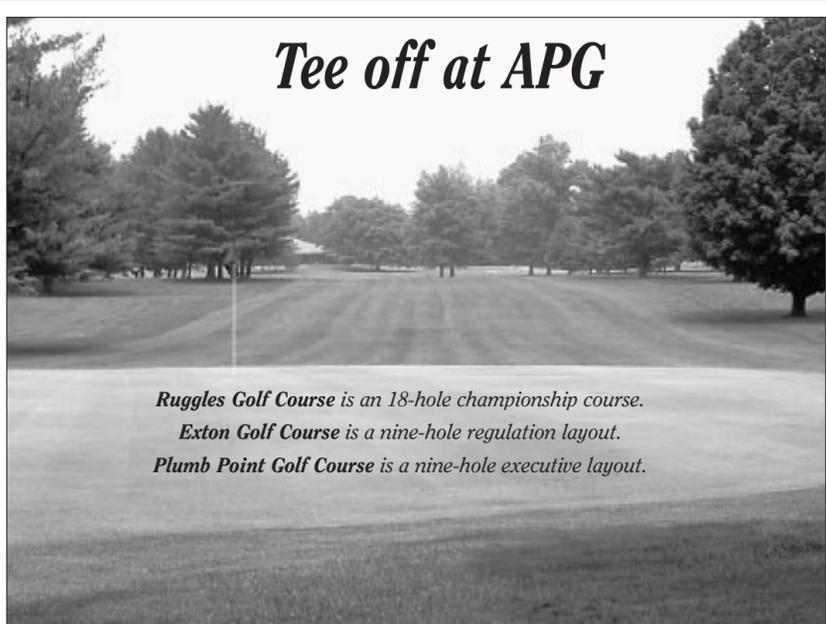
The after-school chess clubs at Aberdeen and Edgewood Youth Centers will stop after June 12, and start again with new registration in September. For more information, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

An incentive based summer reading program, 'Rally for Reading,' at the Aberdeen Youth Center, and 'Reading Club' at the Edgewood Youth Center, will be conducted by 'Mr. Ivan' each week for elementary and middle school age children as part of the SAS/YS Summer Program, June 23 to Aug. 15. Youths will keep a special reading log to chart the number of pages read each week. There will be special themes to talk about, readings to the youths, discussion and expression time, and awards, plus a competition trophy for the winning center. Call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857 for more information.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE

Once school starts, the World Geography Challenge panel will be asking elementary and middle school age children at the youth centers to participate in this twice a year competition. Teams will consist of not less than three or more than five students per team, grades 3 to 5 and 6 to 8. Teams will have resource materials available to help them answer the questions from the moderator. There will be a time limit for each question. Awards will be presented for first, second and third place. For more information, call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857.



Tee off at APG

Ruggles Golf Course is an 18-hole championship course.

Exton Golf Course is a nine-hole regulation layout.

Plumb Point Golf Course is a nine-hole executive layout.

Open 7 a.m. until dusk.

www.apgmwr.com



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Redeem this coupon at any APG Pro Shop for 20% discount off regular greens fees. One coupon per foursome.

Valid Monday through Thursday after 9 a.m., not valid for leagues or tournaments.

Buick Scramble set to tee off at Ruggles Golf Course

Jeremy Friedman
Buick Scramble

Aberdeen Proving Ground's Ruggles Golf Course will host the Buick Scramble, a local qualifying championship tournament, June 22, in a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start.

Up to 30 four-person teams from the surrounding area will compete in a modified scramble format, with the winner advancing to the Mid-Atlantic sectional qualifying championships with the chance of reaching the Buick Scramble National Finals at Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., Oct. 2 to 6.

Ruggles manager, Tom Green, said interest is growing in the Scramble, which is open to male and female golfers.

"Mixed teams are encouraged to participate," Green said, adding that as in bowling, judging is based on a handicapping index.

"Ruggles is the only public course in this area participating in the Buick Scramble,"

Green said, noting that other courses require membership to enter.

The enrollment fee of \$50 per person plus greens fees includes free cart rental, one dozen golf balls, dinner, and a certificate to test-drive a Buick at Boyle Buick in Abingdon, the local sponsor of the event.

"After the test drive, the certificate is mailed in and the golfer receives a \$50 gift certificate to the Ruggles Pro Shop," Green said.

Now in its 19th season and the first under the Buick banner, the Buick Scramble is the world's largest amateur golf tournament with more than 100,000 participants each year. Sanctioned by the PGA of America, the Buick Scramble hosts more than 2,000 local championships a year, nationwide.

"Buick is excited about its new relationship with the world's largest amateur golf tournament and the PGA of America," said Larry Peck, Buick's golf marketing manager.

"Walt Disney World has been an ideal venue for the national finals for 16 of the tournament's 18-year history, and we are very pleased to be returning to this outstanding destination this year."

Tiger Woods, who signed an endorsement pact with Buick in 1999, is honorary chairman of the Buick Scramble and is scheduled to attend the 2002 Buick Scramble National Finals.

For additional information, visit the Web site at www.buickscramble.com; call the Buick Scramble hotline at 800-582-1908, or call Tom Green at Ruggles Golf Course at 410-278-4794.

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (with-

in agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should contact Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement)	George Kudrna (caring for father)
Mildred T. Becker (surgery)	Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury)
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Robert J. Boonstoppel (coronary bypass surgery)	Calvin E. Peake
Tammy Budkey	Karen S Pense
Jane E. Calahan	Mary E. Pettitway
Patricia D. Choate	Linda M. D. Queen
Sharon Gary (care for family member)	Tess Ramos (lung surgery)
Patty Gibson	Michael Reynolds (care of mother)
Edgar W. Greer	Cheryl L. Roark
Fern L. Hitchcock (surgery)	Teresa L. Shores
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)	Jorja V. Thomas-Murcia
Beverly King (caring for husband)	Sandra M. Wachter (surgery)
William Klein	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Anita L. Koller (care for husband)	Ludilina O. Valarao (surgery) (brain tumor removed)

For information about donating annual leave, call Ronda McKinney at 410-278-8988 or fax 410-278-7652.

Fraud

From page 3

highest ethical standards when expending public funds," Warrington said.

Billing officials are responsible for ensuring that cardholders under them are purchasing official supplies and services in support of the agency's mission.

In accordance with provisions of 31 U.S.C., 3528, billing officials are pecuniary liable (financially liable) for certification of improper payments. By law, pecuniary liability and a presumption of negligence attaches automatically to billing officials when there is an erroneous payment. Hence, billing officials bear the burden of proof in establishing the absence of negligence when requesting relief from liability.

"You must understand that the government does not have to prove negligence, blindly signing off on your cardholders monthly statements could cost you your career and financial hardship," said Special Agent Robert Pursel, Major Procurement Fraud Unit (Criminal Investigation Division), APG.

In addition, following the orders of a superior, heavy workload, good work or service record, experience, supervision, or training; or financial hardship are not factors for relief from pecuniary liability under the law.

Intentional use of the GPC for other than official government business may be considered an attempt to commit fraud against the U.S. government.

Fraudulent use of the GPC (e.g. split purchase, exceeding spending limits) is a violation of the U.S. Code, and a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, for those in the military.

Non-criminal misuse of the GPC may result in the immediate cancellation of an individual's card, pecuniary/personal liability, and negative administrative or disciplinary action against the cardholder or billing official.

For more information call Diane Schneider, U.S. Army Contracting Agency, Directorate of Contracting, agency program coordinator, 410-278-0848, or e-mail questions to creditcard@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.

Employees

From page 4

McNamara said his monthly get-togethers with the employees have been "enjoyable and uplifting."

The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region in Aberdeen provides support and job coaches for the five employees. The Arc is a not-for-profit volunteer organization that provides advocacy and support services throughout the United States and in other countries to adults and children with developmental disabilities. It has been providing such services for Harford County since it was founded in 1953 by a group of parents of children with disabilities. It expanded its services in 1999 to include neighboring Cecil County. The Arc is committed to finding a wide range of job opportunities for people with disabilities.

Baird uses a wheelchair for mobility as he rolls down the hallways of building 314 to deliver the mail each morning and afternoon. Gilbert assists him with these mail drops. Though Baird can't speak, he communicates to Gilbert with his communications board or through gestures, to make sure his partner drops the mail into

the right office boxes.

Casey, known throughout building 314 for her friendliness and cheerful smile, also helps out with the mail delivery.

Jordan, who also uses a wheelchair, is Halsey's partner in shredding the stacks of office paper produced regularly at the CPOC. Like their counterparts at DTC, the two women receive support and guidance when necessary from The Arc job coaches—Brigitte Kratzer, Karen McKeeken and Suraya Toy.

Matthews said the job coaches have developed innovative methods to teach people who can't read or must use wheelchairs to do their work effectively.

When asked what she thought about the recent bowling match, Casey flashed a bright smile and replied, "I liked it. I beat Lorraine [Wilkerson, a DTC Information Services Team employee who took part in the match]. The lunch [hamburger, French fries & diet Coke] was good. I would like to go again."

Jordan liked both the game and the atmosphere in APG's bowling alley.

"It was cool when they turned the lights off and played music," she said.

Tornadoes

Watches and warnings should be taken seriously



Courtesy <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/lwx/publicpix/index>

Marguerite Towson
APG News

Maryland residents have learned that tornadoes do not occur only in America's heartland and that greater precautions and planning need to take place in the event tornadoes are spotted.

It's been one year since tornadoes struck the Maryland towns of LaPlata, Rising Sun and Elkton.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, supercell thunderstorms have produced tornadoes that have wiped out towns, devastated homes and businesses, killed 48 people and injured hundreds since March of this year.

In the late afternoon of Sunday, May 4, one of the deadliest outbreaks caused 37 deaths, the most in many years. Tornadoes touched down in eight states, putting the outbreak in the top 10 of all time. In some cases, the storms struck so swiftly, the tornadoes touched down before the warning sirens went off.

According to Gerry Luft, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center Meteorology Team, when severe weather approaches APG during normal duty hours, the ATC Meteorology Team monitors emerging weather conditions via surface observations - local and from the National Weather Service; plus radar and satellite imagery. Personnel at the Meteorology Team will issue a tornado warning to the installation if the latest conditions (surface observations, radar imagery) indicate a tornado may strike the post in the near term. The Meteorology Team spreads word of the warning via phone calls to the EOC and to ATC Range Control.

A new ATC Meteorology Team Web site, www.atc.army.mil/weather, also displays a warning as soon as

one is issued by a team member.

In one week alone, from May 4 to 10, a record 384 tornadoes were reported in the United States. Even the American Red Cross says it is running out of money to respond to disasters. The costs of the recent tornadoes may deplete the fund entirely if more donations don't come in soon.

About 1,000 tornadoes strike the United States each year - most in April, May and June.

Tornadoes can actually strike at any time of year, in any part of the country. But the area of the nation known as Tornado Alley - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas - experiences more tornadoes each year than any other part of the country. Most of the 1,000 tornadoes that touch down nationwide annually occur during peak season.

In the southern states, the peak time for tornadoes occurs between March and May, and again in November. In the northern states the number of tornadoes peak during April and June.

Tornadoes are violently rotating columns of wind that extend to the surface of the earth. They come in many shapes and sizes, and do not always appear in the classic "funnel" form depicted in movies and on television.

Occurring most often during thunderstorms, these wind columns must be in contact with a cloud and the ground to be classified as a tornado. A twister can last anywhere from a few seconds to more than an hour - but most last less than 10 minutes.

Tornado strength is rated on the Fujita Scale, a system developed by T. Theodore Fujita of the University of Chicago in 1971. The "F-scale" ranges from F0 to F5, based on a storm's potential to cause damage.

- **Category F0:** Light damage (<73 mph); some damage to chimneys; branches broken off trees; shallow-rooted trees pushed over; sign boards damaged.

- **Category F1:** Moderate damage (73-112 mph); peels surface off roofs; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos blown off road.

- **Category F2:** Considerable damage (113-157 mph); roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars overturned; large trees snapped or uprooted; light-object missiles generated; cars lifted off ground.

- **Category F3:** Severe damage (158- 206 mph); roofs and some walls torn off well-constructed houses, trains overturned; most trees in forest uprooted; heavy cars lifted off ground and thrown.

- **Category F4:** Devastating damage (207- 260 mph); well-constructed houses leveled; structure with weak foundations blown off some distance; cars thrown and large missiles generated.

- **Category F5:** Incredible damage (261- 318 mph); strong frame houses lifted off foundations and swept away; automobile sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 meters (109 yards); trees debarked; incredible phenomena will occur.

What is a tornado watch?

A tornado watch defines an area shaped like a parallelogram, where tornadoes and other kinds of severe weather are possible in the next several hours. It does not mean tornadoes are imminent - just that everyone should be alert, and to be prepared to go to safe shelter if tornadoes do happen or a warning is issued. This is the time to turn on local TV or radio, turn on and set the alarm switch on the local weather radio station, make sure there is ready access to safe shelter, and inform friends and family aware of the potential for tornadoes in the area.

What is a tornado warning?

A tornado warning means that a tornado has been spotted, or that Doppler radar indicates a thunderstorm circulation which can spawn a tornado. When a local tornado warning is issued, take immediate safety precautions.

Hail, rain, lightning?

Does hail always come before the tornado? Rain? Lightning? Complete silence? Not necessarily, for any of those. Rain, wind, lightning, and hail characteristics vary from storm to storm, from one hour to the next, and even with the direction the storm is moving with respect to the observer. While large hail can indicate the presence of an unusually dangerous thunderstorm, and can happen before a tornado, don't depend on it. Hail, or any particular pattern of rain, lightning or calmness, is not a reliable predictor of tornado threat.

What does a tornado sound like?

That depends on what it is hitting, its size, intensity, closeness and other factors. The most common tornado sound is a continuous rumble, like the sound of an approaching train. Sometimes a tornado produces a loud whooshing sound, like that of a waterfall or of open car windows while driving very fast. Tornadoes which are tearing through densely populated areas may be producing all kinds of loud noises at once, which collectively may make a tremendous roar. Just because a loud roar is heard during a damaging storm does not necessarily mean it was a tornado. Any intense thunderstorm wind can produce damage and cause a roar.

What is a waterspout?

A waterspout is a tornado over water - usually meaning non-supercell tornadoes over water. Waterspouts are common along the southeast U.S. coast - especially off southern Florida and the Keys - and can happen over seas, bays and lakes worldwide. Although waterspouts are always tornadoes by definition, they don't officially count in tornado records unless they hit land. They are smaller and weaker than the most intense Great Plains tornadoes, but still can be quite dangerous.

Waterspouts can overturn small boats, damage ships, do significant damage when hitting land, and kill people. The National Weather Service will often issue special marine warnings when waterspouts are likely or have been sighted over coastal waters, or tornado warnings when waterspouts can move onshore.

Tornado safety from the American Red Cross

- **Prepare a home tornado plan:** Select a designated place to gather in the event of a tornado. A basement is ideal, but if the home has no underground level, a central hallway, bathroom or closet on the lowest floor should be used. If in a high-rise building during a tornado, go to a hallway in the center of the building.

- **Assemble a disaster supplies kit:** Put together a permanent collection of items that are easily accessible in an emergency (ideally kept in the basement or safe room). It should include a first aid kit, essential medications, canned food and a can opener, three gallons of water per person, protective clothing, bedding, a battery-powered radio, a flashlight, extra batteries, items for any special needs the family may have (infant or elderly needs, for example), and written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas and water.

- **Stay tuned for storm warnings:** Tune in to local radio and television stations for storm information. A tornado watch

means a tornado is possible in the local area. A tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted and may be headed for the area.

- **If a tornado watch is issued:** Monitor the news for updates. Pay attention to changing weather conditions - blowing debris or a sound similar to an approaching freight train can mean a tornado is nearby.

- **If a tornado warning is issued:** In homes, the basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture, if possible. In homes without basements, take cover in the center part of the house, on the lowest floor, in a small room such as a closet or bathroom, or under sturdy furniture. Stay away from windows.

In schools, hospitals, and shopping centers, move to pre-designated shelter areas. Interior hallways on lowest floors are best. If the building is not of reinforced construction, go to a nearby one

that is, or take cover outside on low, protected ground. Stay out of auditoriums, gymnasiums, and other structures with wide free-span roofs.

In open country, move away from the tornado's path at right angles. If there is not time to escape, lie flat in the nearest ditch or ravine.

If in a car, do not try to outrun a tornado. If available, take shelter in a sturdy structure. Otherwise, get in the nearest ditch or depression until the tornado passes.

Mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to overturning during strong winds and should be evacuated when strong winds or tornadoes are forecast. Damage can be minimized by securing trailers with cables anchored in concrete footing. Trailer parks should have community storm shelters. If there is no shelter nearby, leave the trailer park and take cover on low-protected ground.

Awards

From front page

Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

Most agreed they were honored by the selection.

Lukey, chief of the MRICD drug assessment division, received the gold in Category IA, for Outstanding Supervisor.

"Our people are the best part of my job," Lukey said. "So many here deserve this as much as I. It's the best job I ever had."

"I was surprised up until the very end," said Matthews. An information services team leader with DTC, who took gold in the Community Service category. Matthews, a breast cancer survivor, was commended for her work on the John Hopkins Breast Cancer Survivor Support Program; with Arc Northern Chesapeake Region in helping to provide employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and for serving as chair of the APG Committee for the Disabled.

The Federal Women's Program manager for APG, Coleman received a gold in the Equal Employment Opportunity Service category for her contributions to the FWP and Black Employment Program. In addition, Coleman received an individual award from the FEB Women's Program Advisory Council in March during the Women's History Month awards and training conference.

Coleman said her award means that, "team goals are being met."

"These awards represent my committees," Coleman said. "I may be chair but I can't perform my tasks without hard working committee members."

A gold winner in the Heroism category, Baskin was credited with saving the life of Maj. Chessley Atchison, MRICD executive officer.

Baskin removed an object from Atchison's throat using the Heimlich maneuver after finding the officer barely conscious in the parking lot in front of their building.

"Apparently he swallowed the wrong way," Baskin said, adding that he instructed a colleague who was with him to call 911, instructed military personnel nearby to await and direct emergency vehicles, then maneuvered Atchison into a kneeling position to administer the Heimlich.

Despite having saved the officer's life, Baskin said he doesn't see himself as a hero.

"I did what anyone would have done in the same situation," he said. "It's not heroic. It's doing the right thing."

The 2003 FEB Silver awardees included:

Category IA

Gary W. Gerst, SBCCOM

Alan L. Yankolonis, DTC

Category IIA

William P. Clay, U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity

Dr. John H. McDonough, MRICD

Gregory A. Schultz, U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center

Category IIB

Edward F. Doyle, Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization

Chantal B. Marus, ATC

Category IIIA

Jeffrey A. Adams, ATC

John P. Cevis, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Tracey Hamilton, MRICD

Katherine Williams, USAGAPG

Category IIIB

Vivian M. Graham, PMCD

Geraldine P. Thompson, ATC

Category IV

Shirley Brown, USAMSAA

Beverly Holbrook, DTC

Darlene Ortt, U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School

Diana G. Reynolds, ATC

Category V

Ruby M. Gaddis, USAGAPG

Peter J. Schlitzkus, ECBC

Category VI

Master Sgt. William J. Cafferky Jr., MRICD

Category VIII

Janmichael S. Graine, U.S. Army Environmental Center

Category IX

F. Wayne Jennings, Program Manager for Chemical Defense

Category XA

Stephen Lee Colgrove, USAMSAA

Dr. James F. Dillman III, MRICD

Patrick A. Donahue, ATC

2003 bronze winners are posted at the APG News

web site www.apgnews.apg.army.mil.

Yorka, the narc sniffing dog, undergoes surgery

Story and photos by
Sonya P. Reynolds
APG News

Most believe only human beings make appointments with dentists, even more so, schedule root canals. This was not the case with Yorka, a Belgian Shepherd and narcotics government soldier, said to be worth millions of

dollars to the Air Force. Jan. 3 goes down in history as the day the first animal had a root canal performed at Kirk U.S. Army Dental Clinic on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

After recognizing an abnormal eating pattern and identifying what looked to be an exposed nerve on a chipped tooth, Senior Airman Richard Engle, dog handler, Dover Air Force

Base, scheduled an appointment with APG Veterinarian Capt. Heidi J. Loheide, Veterinarian Treatment Facility, for further evaluation. After confirming the nerve had been exposed, Yorka was in for a painful treat, the dreaded root canal.

Loheide locally sedated Yorka at the veterinary clinic, prior to surgery. Maj. Diane Pannes, dentist, KUSADC, added that he had to be

given something to calm him down. "Yorka is very aggressive," she said. "The local sedation makes him sleepy and calm." Engle and Loheide prepped Yorka for the procedure, which was performed by Pannes, then transported him to the dental clinic.

A step-by-step pictorial of the procedure follows.



Timeline photo sequence is left to right.

In spite of his sluggish demeanor, Yorka remains focused on all of the human faces staring at him and begins to breath frantically, as if he knows something is about to happen.



Left, Veterinarian Capt. Heidi J. Loheide and Senior Airman and handler Richard Engle, prepare Yorka for surgery. She begins by prepping his vein for the IV just before being totally anesthetized.



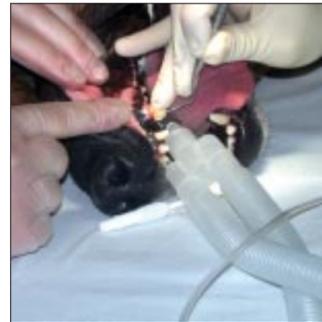
Previous throat surgery makes it difficult to insert the tube for oxygen.



An x-ray machine called the Apex Locator, the same machine used on humans, looks deep into the area and tells the depth of the problem, thus giving the dentist a better guide to fixing it.



Pannes sees that the nerve which had been exposed, is thin. The next step is to drill away the thin layer, completely digging out the nerve.



After removing the nerve, Pannes rinses the canal with an anti-bacterial solution that cleanses it. File indicators are then inserted into the canal, measuring length of root and shape.



Once the length of the root is determined, Pannes inserts a gutter perch, a rubber like material that fills and seals the hollow hole.



Sealer is packed in with the stem, filling the canal. The packing is then smoothed out, assuring that there are no rough edges on the plaster. Pannes said this was a very important step because if it is not done, the canal could be chipped and become exposed again.



Like some humans, Yorka receives a silver filling.



Yorka awakens five minutes after oxygen is removed, but remains sluggish as handler Engle consoles him.

Four days later Yorka returned to his duties. According to Engle, the repair was needed so Yorka's performance would not be affected.

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Alarm

From page 5

The power outage occurred at 12:10 p.m. Both workers were wearing complete protective gear with self-contained breathing apparatus, as required, to protect against potential agent contamination. The two employees exited the bay and left the building.

At the sound of the alarm, workers who were outside the maintenance area, and thus, not required to wear full protective equipment, put on their masks and evacuated the area, in accordance with established procedure. No employees have exhibited symptoms of agent exposure.

Analysis of the building's monitoring system indicated low levels of agent were present in areas immediately adjacent to the neutralization bay, but all within the confines of engineering controls.

At the time of the electric power failure, power was transferred to a backup generator within seconds, according to design. The facility operated on the generator until 4:40 p.m., when electrical power was restored to the site.

All systems, including ventilation, remained functional throughout this timeframe. The staff conducted a routine, systematic transfer of the building's electrical systems from the generator to the electric power system.

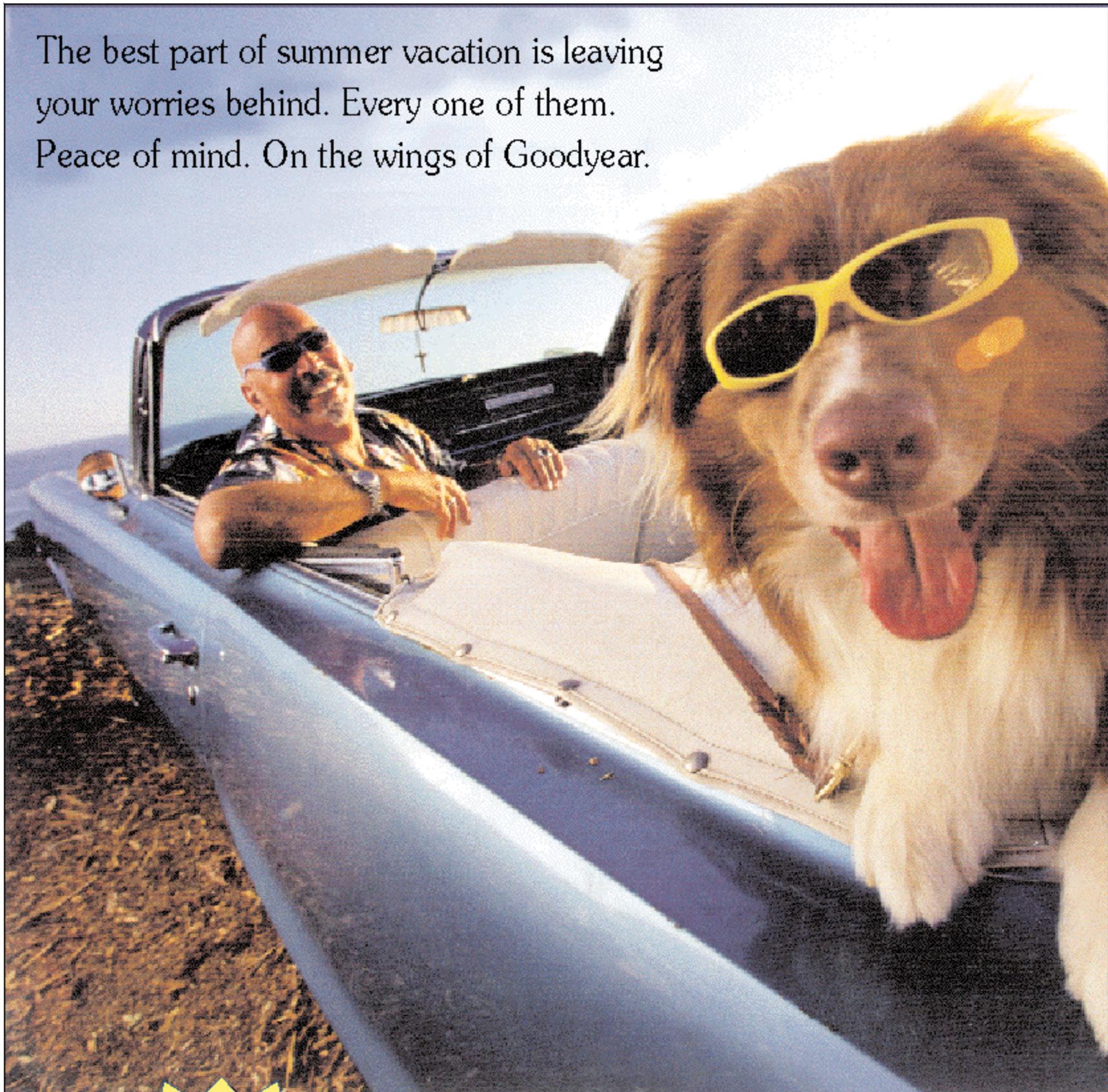
A second power loss was experienced at 10 p.m. that night; however, no alarms sounded during the second power outage.

Army and contractor personnel are working to identify what caused the presence of the mustard vapor and the electrical outages.

Neutralization and other agent operations will resume once stability of electrical power is restored.

Personnel from the facility emphasized that, while the incident initially was characterized as a mustard spill, there was no mustard spill. Since disposal operations began at the facility on April 23, a total of 16 containers have been drained.

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